

Press Release

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Energy Union: “Change to Efficiency is coming but still needs more concrete steps forward”, say insulation manufacturers

Eurima, the European Insulation Manufacturers Association, welcomes today’s Strategy on Energy Union as a further acknowledgement that only a new EU energy model with energy efficiency in buildings at its core will safeguard a secure, sustainable and competitive energy future. At the same time, the Strategy fails to outline the much needed robust, long-term vision and roadmap on how to effectively tap this potential of the EU-building stock in practice.

“We are glad to see that -as stated by Vice-President Šefčovič today- the European Commission is willing to adopt ‘energy efficiency first’ as guiding principle” said Jan te Bos, Eurima Director-General “but, as always, change is difficult and needs further encouragement. Maximising energy efficiency through deep renovation of buildings requires a combination of long-term vision, guidance, investment security, strong roadmaps and an ambitious set of targets and measures, all within a solid governance system ensuring that robust EU legislation steers the process. Today’s Strategy identifies important fields of action, especially in the availability of funding for building renovation, but, at the same time, still leaves many open questions regarding the practical implementation of these elements, thus ensuring their ultimate effectiveness.”

An important step forward for Eurima is the link made between the necessary building renovation programmes and the European Fund for Strategic Investment as leverage. “We now need the European Parliament and Council to set clear criteria to make sure that these available funds are indeed allocated to projects delivering significant long-term savings, such as deep renovations”.

In addition, the Commission will review all relevant energy efficiency legislation starting in 2016. “This will be another unique chance” concluded te Bos “to instrumentalise the building-related EU-regulatory framework (EPBD and the building refurbishment elements of the EED) in the EU’s quest to reduce energy demand by cutting the huge energy wastage of our buildings thus decreasing energy import-dependence, foster jobs and growth and combat climate change”.

ENDS

Background Information

Eurima

Eurima is the European Insulation Manufacturers Association, representing the interests of all major mineral wool insulation producers throughout Europe. Eurima members employ over 20,000 people across Europe with the installation of insulation products accounting for an estimated 300,000 man-years.

Eurima members manufacture mineral wool insulation products. These products are used in residential and commercial buildings as well as industrial facilities. Glass and stone wool insulation secure a high level of comfort, low energy costs and minimised CO₂ emissions. Mineral wool insulation prevents heat loss through roofs, walls, floors, pipes and boilers, reduces noise pollution and protects homes and industrial facilities from the risk of fire.

For further information on energy efficiency in buildings, please visit www.eurima.org or contact:

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